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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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December 22, 2000

Honorable Vernon A. Williams Secretary Surface Transportation Board Washington, DC 20423

Dear Secretary Williams:

I have enclosed two originals of the document described below, to be recorded pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 11301.

The document is a Memorandum of Lease Agreement, a secondary document, dated as of December 21, 2000. The primary document to which this is connected is recorded under Recordation No. 22673. We request that one copy of this document be recorded under Recordation No. 22673-Y.

The names and addresses of the parties to the Memorandum of Lease Agreement are:

Lessor:

LaSalle National Leasing Corporation One West Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 1000 Towson, MD 21204

Lessee:

Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company 1141 Maple Road Joliet, IL 60432

A description of the equipment covered by the Memorandum of Lease Agreement consists of five 89-ton side discharge quad hopper cars numbered EJ&E 73175-73179, inclusive.

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A fee of \$ 26.00 is enclosed. Please return one original to:

Louis E. Gitomer Of Counsel Ball Janik LLP Suite 225 1455 F Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005

A short summary of the document to appear in the index follows: a Memorandum of Lease Agreement between LaSalle National Leasing Corporation, One West Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 1000, Towson, MD 21204, and Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company, 1141 Maple Road, Joliet, IL 60432, covering five 89-ton side discharge quad hopper cars numbered EJ&E 73175-73179, inclusive.

Enclosures

RECORDATION NO. 22673-Y FILED

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

MEMORANDUM OF LEASE AGREEMENT

dated as of December 21, 2000

between

ELGIN, JOLIET AND EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY as Lessee,

and

LASALLE NATIONAL LEASING CORPORATION as Lessor

FILED WITH THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD PURSUANT TO 49 U.S.C. § 11301 on ______, 2000 at __:___.m.

MEMORANDUM OF LEASE AGREEMENT

THIS MEMORANDUM OF LEASE AGREEMENT is made and entered into as of December 21, 2000 by and between LASALLE NATIONAL LEASING CORPORATION ("Lessor"), and ELGIN, JOLIET AND EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY ("Lessee"), with reference to the following:

1. Lessor has agreed to purchase and lease to Lessee, and Lessee has agreed to lease from Lessor, those certain railcars described on Exhibit No. 1 attached hereto.

All of such railcars are more fully described in that certain Master Railcar Lease Agreement dated December 14, 1999, and Interim Schedule No. 14, thereto, and incorporating the terms thereof, dated as of December 21, 2000 (together with all of the riders, schedules and other attachments thereto, collectively, the "Lease"), each between Lessor and Lessee.

2. The Lease shall be effective as of the date hereof and shall be subject to the term specified in the Lease, and any extension of such term to the extent provided for in the Lease.

This Memorandum of Lease Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each executed counterpart constituting an original but all together only one Memorandum of Lease Agreement.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed or caused this Memorandum of Lease Agreement to be executed as of the date first above written.

LASALLE NATIONAL LEASING CORPORATION

By: TERM PRESTON
Title: VIOL PRESIDENT

ELGIN, JOLIET AND EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY

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EXHIBIT NO. 1

89-Ton Side Discharge Quad Hopper Cars

EJ&E 73175 EJ&E 73176 EJ&E 73177 EJ&E 73178 EJ&E 73179